

Application Number : 10/098,714 Confirmation Number: 3043
Applicant : Kevin D. MacLean et al.
Filed : 15 March 2002
TC/A.U. : 2128
Examiner : Alhija, Saif A.

Docket Number : NMTC-0770
Customer No. : 30,185

Record of Interview
Via Electronic Filing

RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Sir:

In response to the interview conducted on **23 October 2007**, please find a record of the interview below.

Identification of Claims and Prior Art Discussed

Applicant and Examiner discussed Cobb (WO 00/67974) as applied to independent claims 1, 11, 21, 31, 32, and 33 of the instant application.

Applicant's Arguments

Applicant pointed out to Examiner that Cobb did not disclose using the previously calculated solution for the preceding cell as an initial input to the iterative process for the target cell, wherein the iterative process involves one or more repetitions of simulating a current solution for the target cell to produce a

current simulated layout. In addition, Applicant pointed out that Cobb did not disclose “wherein the target cell is similar to a preceding cell if ... a layout of a target cell matches a layout of a preceding cell, but an environment surrounding the target cell differs from an environment surrounding the preceding cell.

Outcome of Interview

Examiner and Applicant could not agree that Cobb did not anticipate embodiments of the present invention. Hence, Applicant agreed to review the claims for further amendments or to take the application up on appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

By /Anthony P. Jones/
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Date: 21 December 2007

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